

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 169

Introduced by Assembly Member Dahle

April 13, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 169—Relative to Health Care District Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 169, as introduced, Dahle. Health Care District Month.

This measure would designate the month of May 2016 as Health Care District Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Health care districts were created after World War
2 II to address a shortage of access to acute hospital care for many
3 areas of the state, particularly the rural areas of California; and
4 WHEREAS, The first health care district was formed in 1946
5 and the first district hospital opened in 1947; and
6 WHEREAS, Today there are 78 health care districts in
7 California; 40 health care districts currently operate 43 district
8 hospitals; and
9 WHEREAS, Their primary mission has not changed, which is
10 to provide health services to the communities that created them;
11 and
12 WHEREAS, District hospitals make up 26 of the state’s rural
13 hospitals and 20 of the state’s critical access hospitals; and
14 WHEREAS, District hospitals provided \$71 million in charity
15 care in 2013, offering financial support to community programs

1 focused on the health and well-being of the children and adults in
2 the districts; and

3 WHEREAS, Fifty health care districts operate in a health
4 professional shortage area, a medically underserved area, or a
5 medically underserved population; and

6 WHEREAS, Health care districts collectively provide the
7 following services: acute care, emergency care, skilled nursing or
8 long-term care, community and rural health clinics, ambulance
9 services, adult day care, senior housing and nutritional support,
10 chronic disease management, health education, medical
11 transportation, home health, and hospice; and

12 WHEREAS, Health care districts cover 49,354 square miles of
13 the state, provide services in 40 counties, employ around 32,000
14 employees, and see more than 4,000,000 patient visits annually;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Health care districts are formed by the will of the
17 people, with board members elected and accountable to their
18 communities. Health care districts are often supported in part by
19 local tax dollars to improve community health; and

20 WHEREAS, Health care districts serve as an integral part of
21 the safety net for the state's underinsured or uninsured; and

22 WHEREAS, In 2013, health care districts treated approximately
23 1.4 million Medi-Cal beneficiaries, or 9 percent of the statewide
24 total; and

25 WHEREAS, Each health care district is uniquely focused on
26 the specific needs of the community it serves; and

27 WHEREAS, Health care districts utilize a varying revenue
28 stream, workforce size, services offered, and geographic locations
29 to cater to the health services most needed by their communities;
30 now, therefore, be it

31 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
32 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the month of
33 May 2016 as Health Care District Month; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
35 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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